

Wildflower Seed Bomb

Learning objectives:

To explore natural materials such as seeds, soil and clay using the senses.

To begin to notice that seeds can grow into flowers and that plants need care, water and sunlight.

To develop early physical skills by squeezing, patting, rolling and shaping materials with adult support.



Practitioner knowledge:

Planting wildflowers is important because they provide food for pollinators such as bees, butterflies and other insects. In turn, wildflower rich spaces support wider biodiversity, as these insects become food for birds and other wildlife.

Wildflower habitats have declined significantly in the UK, so creating even small patches can make a positive difference to nature.

Wildflowers also offer rich learning opportunities for young children. They encourage close observation, sensory exploration, early language development and caring behaviours. Outdoor planting experiences can help children build a connection with the natural world, while bringing colour, texture and movement into the environment.

Where possible, choose native or pollinator-friendly wildflower seeds to suit your local area. Seed bombs should only be used in places where you have permission to grow them, such as planters, borders, a garden patch or a small meadow area within your setting.

How to make wildflower seed bombs

You will need:

- 1 cup wildflower seeds
- 5 cups peat-free compost
- 2-3 cups flour, powdered clay or clay soil
- A little water – enough to make it all stick together
- A bowl or tray for mixing
- Spoons or scoops for those who don't like getting their hands dirty.

Step-by-step instructions

- Put the peat-free compost into a bowl or tray.
- Add wildflower seeds.
- add the flour/ powdered clay/ clay soil.
- Slowly add a small amount of water and mix everything together with your hands.
- Keep squeezing and squashing the mixture until it sticks together.
- Take a small handful and roll it into a ball.
- Continue until all the mixture has been rolled into seed bombs.
- Leave the seed bombs to dry for a short time in a sunny or warm place.
- When ready, place the seed bombs onto bare soil in an area where you have permission to plant them.

Watch and wait for rain, sunshine and time to help the seeds begin to grow!

Adult support and safety: Children under three will need full supervision throughout. Encourage touching, squeezing and rolling, but remind children that seeds and soil are not for eating. Offer handwashing after the activity and adapt the experience for children who may prefer to explore with tools rather than their hands.

